



# HEARD ACROSS MONTANA

An electronic newsletter in support of public safety services in Montana

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## PSSB Weekly Highlights

- State Agency Radio Users Task Force members will be reviewing priority issues at next week's meeting. Members and guests are reminded to bring ideas and strategies for conveying a collective state agency voice about public safety radio.
- Jack Spillman, Flathead County, recently reported on a car chase that developed in Kalispell and spread to Libby—out of the range of the digital radio system. Dispatch quickly patched the Sheriff Office's digital code to the analog Marion Law repeater, the shared analog Meadow Peak channel, and the statewide SILVER frequency.

Dispatchers also were able to set up a talk group with the Lincoln County dispatch center and talk in real time providing assistance directly with each other. Since this solution bypassed the telephone system, the need to have multiple communication devices going at the same time was eliminated. "The digital system really proved its worth on this call," said Jack.

## Northern Tier Meeting Informative



Members of the Northern Tier Consortium actively participated in their Thurs., Oct. 6, meeting in Havre. Roger Smith, Lewis and Clark County, reported on his activities, which included visiting the Deadman site to re-set it for remote monitoring and reviewing circuit changes to move various sites to the Eastern Zone 2 Controller in Richland County. In anticipation of winter weather, Roger also has been checking generators at a number of Northern Tier sites. He reported that most of the TruPoint microwave radios are stabilized and running well.

In addition, Roger reported that Lewis and Clark County will be moving the ProVision monitoring server to its Law Enforcement Center to facilitate remote monitoring of the microwave system. Crews also have been deployed to start installing microwave equipment on the eastern Montana contract, starting first at Fox Creek, then moving to Makoshika, Belle Prairie and the Richland County

Law and Justice Center. Trunking at the Highwood Baldy site is coming on line and an extra channel is being installed at the Mount Royal site, making it a five-channel site.

The group discussed the need for updated radio code plugs for Sheridan and Valley Counties as well as coverage issues in Lincoln County. Jack Spillman, Flathead County, distributed a draft report on Border Interoperability Demonstration Project (BIDP) grant activities and discussed the recent training he attended in Wash. D.C.

Bill Fleiner, Broadwater County, reported that the Division B exercise wrapped up in Havre. The Division A wrap up will likely be in Wolf Point, but it needs to be scheduled. Exercise evaluation sessions are scheduled with Division D in Kalispell on Oct 14 and with Division C at the Blackfoot Tribe on Oct. 26-27.

E. Wing Spooner, Public Safety Services Bureau, distributed copies of the 2011 Mutual Aid and Common Frequencies Manual and gave an update on the distribution of narrowband repeaters and base stations funded with DHS FY10 grant monies.

The next meeting will be on Thurs., Nov. 3, at the Hill County Detention Center Courtroom Mtg. Area, 1450 2<sup>nd</sup> St. West in Havre, starting at 10:00 am. Please note the time change.

## Great Strides at Antelope Butte Site

Terrific progress is being made at the Antelope Butte site in Richland County. The electrical meter is installed, grounding is complete and the tower foundation has been poured.

The tower steel was delivered and the first 100-feet of the tower have been installed. The rest of the tower will be stacked using the crane that will set the shelter. Plans are to complete the site in mid-Nov.



## Outstanding Public Safety Performers Named at Montana APCO Conference

Three individuals were recognized as outstanding public safety performers of the year at the Oct 12-13 Montana APCO Chapter annual conference in Kalispell. Theresa (Terri) Grigsby, Montana Highway Patrol in Helena, earned the distinction of being named "Public Safety Telecommunicator of the Year." Sherri Odlin and Lisa Maciag, both with Missoula 9-1-1, were named "Public Safety Communication Center Manager/Director of the Year" and "Public Safety Communication Line Supervisor of the Year," respectively. Congratulations for your terrific contributions to public safety!



Shown from left to right: Susan Bomstad, MT APCO Chapter President; Terri Grigsby, Montana Highway Patrol Dispatcher and 2011 Montana Telecommunicator of the Year; and Bill Carrow, Immediate Past President APCO International. (Photo by Rhonda Sullivan)

Nominations for Information Technologist and Radio Technologist were not received; so, everyone is challenged to submit nominations for all five categories in 2012. You don't need to be an APCO member to be nominated or to nominate someone else. As an additional incentive, all Montana winners will be entered to receive a free registration to the 2012 APCO conference in Minneapolis. The Montana APCO Chapter was awarded the free registration prize as part of its recognition for winning the 2011 Density Award.

Next year's Montana Chapter conference will be held in conjunction with the Sheriff's and Peace Officers Association and the Montana Association of Chiefs of Police Joint Law Enforcement Conference in Great Falls, which is expected to take place in June.

## Upcoming Meetings

### • Mon., Oct. 24: Regional Broadband Meeting

*In partnership with: Montana Business Assistance Connection*

Helena • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Red Lion Colonial Hotel, 2301 Colonial Dr.

### • Tues., Oct. 25: Regional Broadband Meeting

*In partnership with: Bear Paw Development Corporation*

Havre • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Hensler Auditorium-MSU Northern

### • Tues., Oct. 25: State Agency Radio Users Task Force

Helena • 3:00-4:30 pm

Mitchell Building, 125 S. Roberts, Rm. 160

### • Wed., Oct. 26: Regional Broadband Meeting

*In partnership with: Snowy Mountain Development Corporation*

Lewistown • 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Yogo Inn, 211 East Main Street

### • Thurs., Oct. 27: Regional Broadband Meeting

*In partnership with: Beartooth Resource Conservation & Development Area*

Billings • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm,

Clock Tower Inn, 2511 First Ave. N.

### • Tues., Nov. 1: Regional Broadband Meeting

*In partnership with: Sweetgrass Development*

Great Falls • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Chili's/Macaroni Grill Mtg. Rm., 1420 Market Place Dr.

### • Wed., Nov. 2: Regional Broadband Meeting

*In partnership with: Flathead & Lincoln Counties*

Kalispell • 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Flathead Valley Community College

Arts and Technology Building, Room 139

For more info.: <http://broadband.mt.gov/events.aspx>

### • Thurs., Nov. 3: Northern Tier Consortium

Havre • 10:00 am-12:30 pm

Hill County Detention Center, Courtroom Mtg. Area  
1450 2<sup>nd</sup> St. West

### • Wed-Thurs., Nov. 2-3: ICS-300 – Intermediate Incident Command System

Fort Harrison • 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

HAFRAC Auditorium, 1956 Mt. Majo Street

Prerequisites: ICS-100, ICS-200

Register here: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ICS300-REGISTER>

Contact: David Vaught, [dvaught@mt.gov](mailto:dvaught@mt.gov), or 406-444-0354

### • Wed-Thurs., Nov. 16-17: ICS-400 – Advanced Incident Command System

Fort Harrison • 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Regional Training Institute (RTI), Rm. 14, 1956 Mt. Majo St.

Prerequisites: ICS-100, ICS-200 & ICS 300

Register here: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ICS400-Register>

Contact: David Vaught, [dvaught@mt.gov](mailto:dvaught@mt.gov), or 406-444-0354

